

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A device comprising:
- (a) a housing and
 - (b) a support in a well of said housing, said support having dimensions of about 0.5 inches to about 1.5 inches by about 0.5 inches to about 1.5 inches or by about 2.0 inches to about 4.0 inches, the thickness of said support being about 0.030 to about 0.05 inches, said well having walls and said housing comprising at least one wall extending from an area adjacent a top an edge of said well, wherein (a) said at least one wall is at least partially sloped in an area thereof adjacent said well or (b) a ledge extends from said edge to said at least one wall ~~a height of said walls being at least great enough, and a design of said at least one wall being such, that liquid contained in said well is not drawn out of said well.~~
2. (currently amended) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one wall is designed such that corners thereof are radiused ~~or are distant from the edge of said well to reduce or eliminate wicking of said liquid from said well.~~
3. (original) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one wall is at least partially sloped in an area thereof adjacent said well.
4. (original) A device according to Claim 1 wherein the height of said walls of said well is at least about 0.010 inches.
5. (original) A device according to Claim 3 wherein said at least one wall is sloped from the edge of said well to a top portion of said housing.
6. (currently amended) A device according to Claim 1 3 wherein a ledge extends from an edge of said well to the sloping portion of said at least one wall.
7. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 6 wherein a width of said ledge is about 0.050 to about 1.00 inches.

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8. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 7 wherein said at least one wall comprises a partially sloped portion in an area adjacent said ledge and a vertical portion extending from said partially sloped portion to a top portion of said device.

9. (original) A device according to Claim 3 wherein said at least one wall is fully sloped from said ledge to the top portion of said housing.

10. (original) A device according to Claim 6 wherein said ledge is rectangular in shape about said well.

11. (original) A device according to Claim 6 wherein said ledge is circular in shape about said well.

12. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one wall is a circular wall extending from the edge of said well to a top portion of said device.

13. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one wall is a circular wall extending from a ledge adjacent the edge of said well to a top portion of said device.

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14. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said device comprises at least two walls that are fully sloped from a ledge adjacent the edge of said well to a top portion of said device.

15. (original) A device according to Claim 14 wherein said device comprises two opposing walls that are fully sloped from a ledge adjacent the edge of said well to the top portion of said device and two opposing walls extending vertically from said ledge to said top portion.

16. (original) A device according to Claim 14 wherein said device comprises four walls that are fully sloped from a ledge adjacent the edge of said well to the top portion of said device.

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17. (original) A device according to Claim 3 wherein said partially sloped wall is sloped at least about 35 degrees.

18. (original) A device according to Claim 3 wherein said at least partially sloped wall is sloped at about 30 to about 55 degrees.

19. (original) A device according to Claim 6 wherein said ledge comprises a polished surface that prevents wicking of a liquid along said ledge.

20. (original) A device according to Claim 1 wherein a surface of said support comprises a plurality of biopolymers.

21. (original) A device according to Claim 20 wherein said biopolymers are polynucleotides.

22. (original) A device according to Claim 3 wherein the slope of said partially sloped wall is constant.

23. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 3 wherein the slope of said partially sloped wall is not constant.

24. (previously presented) A device according to Claim 1 comprising a single well and further comprising a cover.

25. (original) A device according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one wall is designed such that any corners thereof are distant from the edge of said well by about 0.1 inch to about 1 inch.

Claims 26-70 (canceled)

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